

## U.S. Embassy Manama

### Security Notice 57 – November 20, 2014

On November 22nd and November 29th, 2014, National elections will take place at national and district polling station areas throughout the Kingdom of Bahrain. While Bahraini security officials will be present around the country, there may be increased protests near polling centers, suspicious packages, tire fires and clashes with police during the pre-election and election days throughout the Kingdom. [Polling station areas can be found at this link.](#)

Additionally, certain groups in Bahrain plan to disrupt traffic around the country throughout the day. These disruptions may have an impact on the morning, afternoon, and evening commutes. Anticipate that alternate routes established by the Police may be used to protect all citizens. Develop your own alternate routes given your schedule. Utilize GPS devices to their maximum extent. Maintain your situational awareness and be alert to security conditions.

**There have been no direct attacks on U.S. citizens to date.** We recommend that you continually exercise the appropriate level of security awareness in regards to anti-U.S. activity or events. Spontaneous and, at times, violent anti-government of Bahrain protests continue to occur, particularly at night and on weekends. These protests have included blockades of major highways with burning debris and the establishment of unofficial checkpoints. Protestors have thrown rocks and Molotov cocktails and used homemade weapons to include improvised explosive devices and shotgun like projectile launchers. To counter these violent acts and restore order, the Ministry of Interior will utilize crowd control measures, such as tear gas, stun grenades, and if necessary, birdshot. Violent clashes between security forces and protestors can make travel in and around Bahrain dangerous without advance warning. The Ministry of Interior maintains official checkpoints in certain areas.

For the latest security information, U.S. citizens traveling abroad should regularly monitor the Department of State's Internet website at [travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov) where the [Worldwide Caution](#), [Country Specific Information](#), [Travel Warnings](#), and [Travel Alerts](#) can be found. Follow us on [Twitter](#) and the Bureau of Consular Affairs page on [Facebook](#) as well. Download our free Smart Traveler app, available through [iTunes](#) or [Google Play](#), to have travel information at your fingertips. In addition to information on the internet, travelers may obtain up-to-date information on security conditions by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or, from other countries, on a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm Monday through Friday, Eastern Time (except U.S. federal holidays). The U.S. Embassy in Manama can be reached at (973) 1724-2700; the afterhours emergency number is (973) 1724-2957; the fax number is (973) 1725-6242. The Embassy's [website, http://bahrain.usembassy.gov](http://bahrain.usembassy.gov), includes travel information and the Worldwide Caution and Demonstration Notices. All U.S. citizens are encouraged to enroll in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program](#). The Consular Section can be reached at [ManamaConsular@state.gov](mailto:ManamaConsular@state.gov).

#### **The U.S. Embassy is located at:**

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Kingdom of Bahrain